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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I think there is a separate question pending with regard to that. This supplementary question has nothing to do with the main question, as the main question relates to the encouragement of khadi and handlom cloth."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" Sir, கதர் உற்பத்தி சென்டர்களிலும், தேசிய விஸ்தரிப்புத் திட்டம், சமூக நலத் திட்டம் இவைகளில் வேலை செய்கின்றவர்களாவது கண்டிப்பாக கதர் உடுத்திக்கொண்டிருக்கவேண்டு மென்று அரசாங்கம் உத்திரவு பிறப்பிக்குமா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" My Hon. Colleague in charge of that department is here and I hope he would have taken note of the suggestion."

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHAYYA :—" Will the Government consider the undesirability of introducing any regimentation, especially for school children in respect of the dress that they should wear, as it may even affect attendance in schools? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not see why the hon. Member should entertain any unnecessary fear with regard to regimentation."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அனேகமாக கதரைத்தான் சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு உடையாக வழங்குவதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் நம் ராஜ்யத்திலுள்ள போலீஸார்கள் யாரும் கதரில் உடை தரிப்பதில்லை. கதர் குல்லாய் போட்டுக்கொள்வதில்லை. அதற்கு மாறாக மில் துணிகளைத்தான் உபயோகப் படுத்துகிறார்கள். இனிமேலாவது அவர்கள் எல்லோரும் கதரினால் ஆன உடைகளை உபயோகிக்க சர்க்கார் உத்திரவு பிறப்பிக்குமா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The suitability of the cloth also has to be considered, and cloth supplied to the Police comes from our own weaving department in the Coimbatore Jail."

*Facilities given to the slum dwellers in the City.*

* 765 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any facilities are afforded by the Government to slum dwellers in the City of Madras; if so, what they are;

(*b*) the amount spent by the Government for the improvement of slums and to provide facilities for the pavement dwellers in the City of Madras;

(*c*) the extent of poramboke lands in the City of Madras assigned by the Government last year to slum dwellers;

(*d*) how many slums in the City were destroyed by fire accident in 1953, the total loss incurred and the number of persons affected; and

(*e*) the total amount of relief extended to the victims referred to in clause (*d*) by the Government?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Essential civic amenities like water-supply, drainage, roads, lighting, public conveniences, etc., are provided by the Corporation of Madras to the slums in the City. The City Improvement Trust also provides similar amenities to the slums cleared by it.

" (*b*) The Government are paying an annual contribution of Rs. 2½ lakhs to the City Improvement Trust, which it utilises for slum improvement and other improvement schemes undertaken by it. Apart from this, the Government have paid a special grant of Rs. 11,000 to the Trust during 1953–54. Provision has also been made in the Budget for 1954–55 for the payment of a grant of 1½ lakhs to the Corporation of Madras towards the cost of improvements carried out by the Corporation to the slums on Government lands in the City.

" (*c*) Nil, Sir.

" (*d*) During 1953 fire accidents occurred in five slums in the City affecting 93 families. The total loss amounted to Rs. 13,527–12–0.

" (*e*) A sum of Rs. 2,000 was paid by the Government and a sum of Rs. 1,100 was paid by the Corporation of Madras."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" May I know from the Hon. the Minister for Health whether the Corporation of Madras has sent any proposals to the Government regardig the improvement of slums? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Corporation has prepared a comprehensive scheme of slum improvement costing about four and odd crores of rupees to be spent in annual instalments and the Madras Government have forwarded that scheme to the Central Government." 8–10 a.m.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—The other day while a similar question was answered, it was brought out that houses built on areas cleared of slum-dwellers were rented to people who were not slum-dwellers. Is this also a part of slum improvements? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That was in a particular place, namely, Cox Cheri, but in other places the policy is to provide houses for the slum-dwellers as far as possible in the slum area itself and for other evacuated people, if any, as near the slum as possible."

SRI C. RAJAM RAMASAMI :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that in most of the slums there are no public conveniences and that people squat freely in the open air? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Is it with reference to the Corporation land or Government land? "

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SRI C. RAJAM RAMASAMI :—" It is with reference to Government poramboke lands."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It happens not only in slums but in other places also. Lanes, streets, banks of rivers and channels are being used for defecation in the open." (Laughter.)

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" As there are three kinds of slums, namely, slums owned by the Corporation, slums owned by the Government and slums owned by private persons, will the Government be pleased to state their policy as far as the slums owned by them are concerned, and in the event of private owners of slums not providing all the facilities which the Corporation is providing on its slums, what is the action that the Corporation or the Government take against those private owners? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I am surprised that the hon. Member is asking this question. The Slum Improvement Bill was passed here in January and it has now received the assent of the President. The idea is to acquire these private lands, after paying compensation, and make improvements thereon."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Is it a fact that the landless and houseless people from the neighbouring countryside add to the number of slum-dwellers and slums in the City, and will the Hon. Minister take steps to arrest the growth of slum-dwellers and of slums in the City? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—"Yes, Sir. People from outside the City are coming in increasing numbers to the City in search of employment. There has been a drift from the villages to the towns everywhere during the last few years."

SRI C. RAJAM RAMASAMI :—" I understand that a sum of Rs. 1,50,000 has been given over to the Corporation by the Madras Government for providing amenities in slums. Will the Hon. Minister see that this sum is spent for providing public conveniences in the Government slums? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That is one of the improvements, Sir."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that there is a ban on the assignment of Government poramboke lands to those who are now occupying those lands? What is the cause for this kind of ban? When was it imposed and why not the Government remove it and assign those lands to slum-dwellrs? '

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The question may be addressed to the Hon. Revenue Minister."

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Sri A. Ratnam :—" May I know whether any grant is made to the slum-dwellers affected by fire accidents? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty :—" Yes, Sir. Grants are given to persons affected by fire accidents."

Sri V. R. Nagarajan :—" As this matter relates to a very poor grade of people dwelling in the City, irrespective of whether the Government or the Corporation has the legal title to the slum areas, may I request the Government to pay serious attention to this problem and to build tenements for these people in the City during the ensuing year? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty :—" That is the purpose for which this comprehensive scheme of slum improvement has been formulated."

Sri K. Vinayakam :—" In connection with the giving of aid to the victims of fire accidents, the Corporation has set apart a little sum with which they can only give a dole of Rs. 5 per hut which is negligible when compared to the loss sustained by the slum-dwellers. Will the Government be, therefore, pleased to allot a certain amount to be distributed to them by the Government authorities and not by the Corporation as far as the City of Madras is concerned? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty :—" That is a difficult proposition. We have to find money for many things."

*Starting of further minor irrigation works in Malabar.*

* 766 *Q.*—Sri Kunhi Mohamed Shafee (on behalf of Sri A. Appu) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any investigation has been made in Malabar about the possibilities of starting further minor irrigation works in the district; and

(*b*) if so, whether any proposal has been received from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation?

The Hon. Raja Sri Shanmuga Rajeswara Sethupathi :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) A special programme of minor irrigation works for the year 1954–55 received from the Special Chief Engineer (Irrigation) has been approved by the State Government and forwarded to the Government of India for their approval and financial sanction. The programme includes 17 works in Malabar district costing Rs. 2,60,390."

Sri Kunhi Mohamed Shafee :—" May I know whether the execution of all the sanctioned minor irrigation works has been completed in Malabar district? "

The Hon. Raja Sri Shanmuga Rajeswara Sethupathi :—" Works sanctioned for which year? "